

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3587

To require the Federal Communications Commission to amend the program exclusivity and nonduplication rules relating to cable television system blackouts to permit carriage of network programming from broadcasts within the same State.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 1993

Mr. DOOLITTLE (for himself, Mr. CHAPMAN, and Mr. GUNDERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to amend the program exclusivity and nonduplication rules relating to cable television system blackouts to permit carriage of network programming from broadcasts within the same State.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Syndex Fairness Act
5 of 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Federal Communications Commission
2 regulations requiring cable television companies to
3 delete programming that might be duplicated by a
4 channel outside of the local market have drastically
5 and adversely changed the ability of citizens in cer-
6 tain States to receive television programming perti-
7 nent to their State;

8 (2) the effect of this ruling has caused local
9 programming to be blacked out and be replaced by
10 programming from another State; and

11 (3) this unique situation has placed a hardship
12 on numerous viewers who are reliant on cable to
13 supply timely and applicable television services.

14 **SEC. 3. REVISION OF REGULATION REQUIRED.**

15 The Federal Communications Commission shall re-
16 vise the regulations relating to nonduplication protection
17 and syndicated exclusivity (47 C.F.R. 76.92 et seq.) to
18 permit the customers of cable televisions systems in towns,
19 cities, or communities with populations of less than 50,000
20 to receive network programs for each network from affili-
21 ated television stations that are located in the same State
22 as such customers.

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